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February 2, 2005

President's Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled
G. John Heyer
1421 Jefferson Davis Highway
Jefferson Plaza 2, Suite 10800
Arlington, VA. 22202-3259

Dear Mr. Heyer:

As the Executive Director of the Texas Association of Goodwills (TAG) and on behalf of our membership, I am writing this letter to express our opposition to the proposed notice of rulemaking (Docket No. 2004-01-01) from the President's Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

Texas Association of Goodwills is comprised of 15 member agencies providing services to persons with disabilities throughout the state of Texas. Many of the member agencies participate in the Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Program. All TAG member agencies oppose the proposed rulemaking on governance standards for non-profit agencies participating in the JWOD Program. The proposed rules clearly exceed the scope of the Committee's authority and Congressional mandate. While the Committee is responsible for determining commodities, services and fair market price, these powers and responsibilities DO NOT extend to the governance standards or executive compensation of non-profit agencies participating in the JWOD program.

Implementation of these rules would drastically affect programs and services and negatively impact employment opportunities for people who are blind or severely disabled.

We urge the Committee for Purchase not to adopt these regulations, which are overreaching and not in the best interests of maintaining the JWOD program. We respectfully request that the Committee withdraw these rules.

Sincerely yours

**Lori Henning
Executive Director
Texas Association of Goodwills**

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